

2nd March 1928]

Irrigation

*Proposed scheme of irrigation by the Ponnar river
in North Arcot district.*

* 1668 Q.—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any scheme for irrigation by the river Ponnar in North Arcot district;

(b) whether the Superintending Engineer of Tanjore inspected the river about six months ago and suggested a scheme to take water to South Arcot district and to a few villages in Tiruvannamalai taluk by constructing a dam in the bed of the river;

(c) when the proposed scheme is to be taken in hand;

(d) whether the scheme will be so modified as to benefit a greater portion of lands in the North Arcot district; and

(e) what are the reasons for delaying the scheme?

A.—In the schedule of requirements of staff for the investigation of projects, submitted in October 1927, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation applied for a special establishment for the investigation of a scheme to construct a reservoir across the Ponnar in the Tiruvannamalai taluk. A preliminary report on the scheme was stated to have been drawn up and its detailed investigation remained to be taken up. The scheme as proposed consists in the formation of a tank of a capacity of 11,000 million cubic feet at a narrow gorge near Ariakudiyur. The Government considered that the investigation should be postponed for the present unless it could be taken up by the ordinary establishment.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“May I know why it is delayed to appoint a special establishment to carry on this work?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“We have appointed various special establishments for works and this was not considered urgent enough to need a special establishment.”

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—“May I know how much it will cost to have a special establishment for this?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“Notice, Sir.”

Rao Bahadur K. SITARAMA REDDIYAR:—“May I know if the Government have been made aware of the results of this scheme if it would affect the vested interests in the first freshes in the river Ponnar, enjoyed by the British and the French ryots lower down?”

• The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—“A preliminary report on that subject is with us.”

Motor Vehicles Act

Number of cars and bus accidents in the City of Madras.

* 1669 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of motor cars in Madras City and in each district of this Presidency at the end of 1927;